

Hurricane Katrina Update *New Direction*

Vol. 3

Inside This Issue

This is a Newsletter of the SPAWAR Systems Center New Orleans

MRRS Recognized in Recent GAO Report

RADM Slaght Retires from SPAWAR

Do You Know What it Means to Love New Orleans?

Important Numbers and Web Sites

SSC NOLA Facility Update

Mail Procedures

Open Season

If you have information or photos you'd like to submit for consideration in the newsletter please send to maria.tolleson@navy.mil or mstolleson@yahoo.com

Ft. Worth Proves to be More Than Just a COOP Site

By Teresa Leger
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office

Weather reports contradicted each other on the exact path Hurricane Katrina would take, but they all agreed this was not going to be a hurricane to take lightly. As they had done many times in the past, the SSC New Orleans personnel implemented the command's Continuity of Operation Plan (COOP).

As the storm neared and fears grew, personnel continued to prepare to move both hardware and personnel to the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS JRB) in Fort Worth, Texas where the SSC New Orleans away team would continue to provide service to our customers.

As part of the COOP plan, IT operations team members and Customer Support Center (CSC) personnel secured the items they would need to continue operations in Ft. Worth. Before leaving New Orleans, the away team went home to secure their personal belongings and to make final arrangements for the safety of their families and homes before they began their travels to Ft. Worth.



SSC New Orleans Customer Support have become accustomed to their new environment in Ft. Worth, Texas.

[Continued](#)

RADM Slaght Retires from SPAWAR

Provided by SPAWAR

RADM Kenneth D. Slaght, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) Commander and the Navy's chief engineer, concluded a distinguished 35-year career at his retirement ceremony held at SPAWAR Headquarters on November 3.

Slaght has been responsible for providing information technology and space systems for naval, joint, and coalition forces. In addition to developing the FORCENet architecture, he also served as the chief engineer for the Navy's command, control, communications, computer, and intelligence systems.

RADM William Rodriguez, SPAWAR Chief Engineer, will serve as acting commander until a permanent replacement is designated.



Important Numbers and Web Sites

- ✱ Navy Global Distance Support Center (to update your location and contact information), 1-877-418-6824, Option 2 or www.anchordesk.navy.mil
- ✱ BUPERS 24-hour Helpline, 1-877-414-5358
- ✱ Safe Haven Orders, 1-866-239-0303
- ✱ 24-hour Support Hotline, 1-800-677-5327
- ✱ SSC NOLA Executive Officer, 1-850-452-5810
- ✱ Per Diem Rates <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/perdiemrates.html>
- ✱ FEMA, 1-800-621-3362 or www.fema.gov
- ✱ Red Cross, www.redcross.org
- ✱ DOD Civilian Personnel Management Service: Hurricane Information for DOD Civilian Employees and Annuitants, <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/hurricaneinfo/index.htm>
- ✱ Civilian Employee Assistance Program, 1-800-677-LEAP
- ✱ Federal Tax Relief, www.irs.gov, select "help for hurricane victims"

This is a publication produced by the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) Systems Center New Orleans' Public Affairs Office located at 2251 Lakeshore Drive, New Orleans, LA 70145. The content of this publication does not reflect the views, opinions, or policies of the Department of the Navy or the Department of Defense.

MRRS Recognized in Recent GAO Report

By Teresa Leger
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Office

The Medical Readiness Reporting System (formerly known as RAMIS) was recognized in a recent General Accounting Office (GAO) Report.

Although the report outlines troubles with determining medical and physical readiness of the reserve force, MRRS which was developed and is hosted by the SSC New Orleans was specifically mentioned in enabling the Navy Reserve to comply with medical readiness reporting requirements.

According to the report, "All of the reserve components are now employing systems that can track compliance with medical examinations, but only one reserve component—the Navy Reserve—has taken the necessary quality assurance steps to ensure the reliability of its data on compliance with routine medical examinations."

MRRS is a real-time web-based system that enables users to access data and create reports at the click of a button. These reports can be narrowed down to an individual's medical readiness or scaled up to reflect data and statistics for the entire Navy and Marine Reserves.

"The business rules as defined by the OSD have been incorporated into MRRS and allow the Navy and Marine Reserves to report data without having to hand calculate or draw conclusions," said Nicolle Algero, SSC New Orleans Division Director, Navy Reserve Systems. "Be-

cause MRRS is web-based, we have the ability to quickly adapt to the changing requirements for medical readiness."

The Navy Reserve was specifically recognized for their ability to track medical readiness as well as their employment of quality assurance procedures to ensure the accuracy of the reported information. MRRS interfaces with the Reserve Headquarters System (RHS), the Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS), and Marine Corps Total Force System (MCTFS) which provides an authoritative source for personnel information and eliminates the need to duplicate efforts by hand entering personnel information into MRRS.

The Navy Reserve Readiness Command conducts routine inspections to verify medical data accuracy in MRRS and requires reserve units to review ten percent of their medical records for accuracy after each drill weekend. This can easily be accomplished through the MRRS web-enabled system.

In addition, the Navy Reserve units are also required to keep the Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command informed about medical and dental compliance on a biweekly basis.

The high priority the Navy Reserve places on medical and dental readiness has enabled them to achieve a 96.8 percent completion of the routine 5-year medical examination and a 94 percent completion of annual medical certificates for reservists.

Mail Procedures

The Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) has graciously been correcting outgoing mail that has been improperly addressed by SSC New Orleans personnel. As the volume of mail increases, NETC will be unable to continue to make such corrections.

The administrative department and mailroom for SSC New Orleans has been established in Pensacola, Florida. The address for SSC New Orleans in Pensacola is:

SPAWARSYSCEN
ATTN ADMIN
210 WEST AVENUE
SUITE A
PENSACOLA FL 32508-3135

Please note that all mailing labels must be typed, must be in all capital letters, and must not contain any punctuations except for the hyphen in the ZIP Code. Contact the other SSC New Orleans alternate work locations to confirm the requirements for sending and receiving mail through that particular mail facility.

SSC NOLA Update



The Collateral Equipment Program Office from the Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi, toured the SSC NOLA facility this week to begin collecting preliminary contract information for the removal of government and personal equipment from the buildings.

Open Season

Information regarding the Federal Employees Health Benefits and Flexible Spending Account (FSAFEDS) Open Season is available at the following web sites.

<http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/>

<http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/06rates/>

Open Season for both programs will take place from November 14 through December 12, 2005. All Open Season changes should be made through the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS) which can be accessed at

<https://www.civilianbenefits.hroc.navy.mil/>.

Ft. Worth (continued)

Vincent Hamilton and Jim Laurent remained at the SSC New Orleans facilities until the SSC NOLA away team and the SSC NOLA tenants, DIMHRS (Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System) and NSIPS (Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System), had evacuated the facilities.

As the storm neared and the realization sunk in that Hurricane Katrina was headed toward the Mississippi River as had been feared and predicted for centuries, Devecchio Turner traveled to Ft. Worth while remaining in contact via telephone with the SSC New Orleans stay team working together to guarantee the away team would be prepared to continue service to our customers once they reached Ft. Worth on August 27.

As outlined in the COOP, SSC New Orleans personnel began the stand-up of the 13 programs and the multitude of servers residing on the Commander Naval Reserve Force (CNRF) 164 network which is managed and maintained by the SSC New Orleans.

The programs outlined in the original COOP effort consisted of the Reserve Headquarters System (RHS), Medical Readiness Reporting System (MRRS), Records Information Management System (RIMS), the Navy Reserve Order Writing System (NROWS), and the Job Advertising and Selection System (JASS).

Prior to the onslaught of Hurricane Katrina, CAPT (Sel) Sam Sumwalt, one of SSC New Orleans customers, confirmed the network was operational as planned.

After the devastation of Hurricane Katrina on August 29, the SSC New Orleans realized this was more than a normal COOP. Although the dreaded direct hit up the Mississippi River



The new accommodations for the SSC New Orleans personnel in Ft. Worth, Texas.

[Continued](#)

Ft. Worth (continued)

was not realized, the destruction caused by Katrina and the eventual breakage of the levee system in New Orleans created problems that no man could have imagined.

Many lessons were learned from Katrina, to include the need to provide support for all environments managed and supported by the SSC New Orleans which currently includes both the CNRF 164 and SSC NOLA 205 networks.

Although Ft. Worth was not prepared to host more systems and personnel than outlined in the COOP requirements, they stepped up to the plate and helped their fellow command in need for the betterment of the entire Navy. "They (NAS JRB Ft. Worth) have been very cooperative in working to meet our needs," said Ken Wagar, Navy Human Capital Development Program (NHCDP) Project Manager. "They have installed 40 additional drops to accommodate an increase of a like number of software and within the next two weeks, they plan to install an additional 21 phone lines to enhance our support." A certified cat-6 gigabit infrastructure to allow high-speed, isolated connectivity to the SSC New Orleans servers for tape backup and res-

toration is currently being installed. These are only some of the examples of the overwhelming support the SSC New Orleans personnel have received in Ft. Worth.

In an amazing effort to continue to provide service to the Navy, the SSC New Orleans IT operations personnel began to stand up programs located on the SSC 205 network which were not originally included in the COOP plan. With challenges such as lack of proper hardware, air conditioning, power, and cabling, SSC New Orleans personnel miraculously had several systems up and running within two to three weeks.

The other programs now functioning include FASTDATA (Fund Administration and Standardized Document Automation), FLEETRIDE, JCMS (JASS Career Management System), MEASURE/METCAL (Metrology Automated System for Uniform Recall & Reporting/Metrology & Calibration), PLS (Personnel Locator System), PM (Project Management) Tracker, PVCS, REMEDY, TFARS (Total Force Authorizations and Requirements System), and OPAS (Officer Performance Appraisal System). "The support and guidance provided by CAPT Sam Sumwalt and Senior Chief Dan Cain were instru-

mental in ensuring that our systems are up and functional," said LT. Vinnie Sarisen, SSC New Orleans Ft. Worth Operations Lead.

Amazingly, while Louisiana and the Gulf Coast were being ravaged by Hurricane Katrina, SSC New Orleans CSC personnel continued to provide 24-hour, 7-days a week service to our customers. Even with the onset of Hurricane Rita less than a month later, SSC New Orleans personnel put aside their own fears and concerns and continued to provide the superior service the Department of the Navy has become accustomed to when dealing with the SSC New Orleans.

The CSC personnel closed 14,000 service requests, handled over 4500 calls and 2500 faxes and thousands of service requests through the mail within the first two months of operations in Ft. Worth.

While in Ft. Worth the SSC New Orleans management team has also been able to reach an agreement with the Air National Guard to host the Air National Guard Order Writing System (AROWS) thus continuing to expand the services provided by SSC New Orleans personnel.

In addition, the CSC continued to support the Manpower Personnel Education and Train-

ing (MPT&E) call center integration effort. "This has all been accomplished at a 60 percent staffing level and despite the personal tragedies that have been suffered as a result of the hurricanes by virtually all members of the CSC," said Wagar. "Given the circumstances involved in their relocation and their personal losses which include homes, possessions, and even friends and family, their performance has been nothing short of heroic."

NAS JRB Ft. Worth is also hosting the Navy Human Capital Development Program and some administrative functions for both the SSC New Orleans government and contractor workforce. Gail Womack has relocated to Ft. Worth and is providing payroll support to all of the SSC New Orleans government personnel no matter where they are working.

Although the SSC New Orleans personnel did the best they could to prepare for a hurricane, no one could have predicted the aftermath of Katrina and then Rita. The SSC New Orleans has always boasted the quality of its personnel and now they can boast even more.

Do You Know What it Means to Love New Orleans?

(written over the course of several weeks photographing the city)

By Maria LoVasco Tolleson
SSC NOLA Public Affairs Officer

Devastation and desolation. The mouth cannot describe what the eyes see. Photos don't do it justice. They don't capture the smell – of rotting food, wet carpet, and moldy wood. Photos don't capture the feeling of numbness and shock evident in the face of the occasional soul who wanders into the camera lens as they pick through the debris that once defined their life.

Just when you think you've seen the worst of it – in Lakeview and New Orleans East– you cross over into the Ninth Ward and St. Bernard, and the mind expands to take in new levels of grief and destruction.



Ninth Ward homes were reduced to rubble when the neighborhood was flooded during Hurricane Katrina and again during Hurricane Rita. *Provided by nola.com*

There are houses in the Ninth Ward that have been roughly shoved around by not one, but two hurricanes. Only recently have residents been allowed to return to their homes, but even then they make the trip aboard a tour bus. They're not allowed to go inside. The houses are teetering like carefully placed playing cards. Move one thing and the whole structure could come crashing down.

In Chalmette, cars are piled atop one another as though in a child's playroom. They're stacked up against houses, or riding astride the roof sharing space with the family washing machine – or it could be the neighbor's washing machine. Here the storm didn't respect boundaries.



A week after Hurricane Katrina roared ashore, this neighborhood in Old Jefferson was still under water. *Photo by Maria Tolleson*



Homes in the lower Ninth Ward were knocked off of their foundations by the force of water surging through the Industrial Canal levee break. *Provided by nola.com*



Warped kitchen cabinets and countertops in a Lakeview home that sat under toxic water for two weeks. *Photo by Maria Tolleson*

[Continued](#)

Loving New Orleans (continued)

In the Lexington Subdivision of St. Bernard Parish, houses were set adrift from their lots and sent sailing down the streets. A few settled in the front yard of a neighbor, or they've settled smack in the middle of the street creating an abrupt cul de sac.

You wonder, what if these families had decided to ride out the storm in the attics of these suddenly mobile homes? Did they feel the brick structure shudder as it wrenched free of its wires and plumbing? If they were able to peek outside an attic window, what did they imagine as the world itself seemed to move past them?

Near Bucktown along the Orleans/Jefferson Parish line, cars and homes are covered in a gray dirt reminiscent of ash. It brings to mind pictures of Hiroshima after the bomb blast, or downtown Manhattan as tons of concrete and drywall and office furniture rained down with the World Trade Center.

That's why people attempt to describe what they see in terms of apocalyptic destruction. "It looks like a bomb went off," they say. And it does. Complete with the dazed survivor sifting through the remains.

Even in Jefferson Parish, which got off relatively easy, two feet of water still entered the homes and businesses near the area around Lakeside Shopping Center. The closer to the lake, the worse the impact. Today, sailboats are sailing on the tranquil waters. Not so that final weekend in August when the national viewing



The scarred roof of the Superdome can be seen in the distance from Earhart Boulevard. *Photo by Maria Tolleson*

audience was witness to the power of water and wind and surge. Roadside signs triumphantly declare, "Yes, We're Open," but many of the businesses on the usually bustling Veterans Highway are still shuttered.

Weeks ago, as you drove through neighborhood streets you saw appliances and garbage bags and carpets spilling out into the roads creating an obstacle course for the curious motorist.

Later, this debris was joined by a mountain of sheetrock and flooring and ceilings – the redolent guts of the house strewn outside the skeleton of a brick or wooden structure, sporting the tell-tale water line.

That's how you know how bad a neighborhood got hit. You look for its ring of debris. In New Orleans East and the Gentilly area, it's halfway up the front door – or higher.



Signs advertising damage restoration services are found throughout the city and its suburbs. This intersection is at the corner of Robert E. Lee and St. Bernard Street near the UNO Research and Technology Park. *Photo by Maria Tolleson*



The contents of a home piled up on the curb near the lakefront. *Photo by Maria Tolleson*

[Continued](#)

Loving New Orleans (continued)

In St. Bernard, it was over the roof. There you don't look for a water line, you look for marsh grass in the gutter.

Several hundred homes in Meraux were also flooded with a million gallons of oil. This mark is a dark stain that skirts the house about two feet high. Imagine coming home to thick, black grime bathing the couch and drapes and furniture. These folks will receive settlement checks from the oil company. Let's hope they won't have to wait as long for that as some folks have been waiting for their insurance adjustors to show up.

In Jefferson, on the North Shore, and on the West Bank trucks proliferate the streets – tree cutters, Entergy, Cox, Bell South, utility trucks, construction crews – restoring power and water and communication and some semblance of normalcy. But St. Bernard is still too raw for such signs of progress. In these neighborhoods, the people are congregated at the Disaster Relief Center set up at the Wal-Mart parking lot. The talk there is of bulldozing entire neighborhoods and not rebuilding.

Blasphemous words to the close-knit community of St. Bernard Parish whose residences know only to rebuild, and hope that all of the neighbors come back too.

Parts of New Orleans East are eerily quiet – cemetery quiet. There are no carpets and debris on the curb – the signs of people ready to get on with the business of rebuilding. The future is uncertain: do they need to elevate the house? Whose going to tell them, and when? And how are they going to pay for that?

In the lower Ninth Ward it is almost inevitable that entire neighborhoods will need to be raised. Machinery will finish what Mother Nature started. One more push with a bulldozer and it all collapses.

In the streets where the waste management trucks are picking up the debris the smell is back. As front-end loaders scoop up mountains of waterlogged and rotting debris the sleeping stench is reawakened, and the gnats are overjoyed as the machines stir up the stew. The smell seems to cling to the clothes, or maybe it has taken up residence in the mind. It is an odor, once experienced, that will never be forgotten.



Most of Highway 11 on the south side of Slidell was destroyed. Many houses were removed from their pilings. Some were thrown across the highway, others were completely destroyed. And there were those that somehow remained standing.



(left) Mandeville Yacht Club: The Mandeville Yacht Club sustained severe damage. Debris removal and reconstruction on the facility has already begun.



(below) Southside Café, a popular restaurant located on Ponchartrain Drive in Slidell was severely damaged by Katrina, and later sustained more damage in an electrical fire. Owners plan to rebuild.

Above photos by Teresa Leger

[Continued](#)

Loving New Orleans (continued)

Can there possibly be enough adjusters and clean-up crews and construction workers in the world to get this city back on its feet? In parts of the suburbs and Uptown you can almost pretend that everything is back to normal. You seek out the stores and restaurants that are open and ignore the Humvees patrolling the streets.

One donut shop in Old Jefferson is missing part of its roof, but what it does have is employees who came back. Every morning the parking lot is full of trucks and service vehicles with out of state plates.

You think about the capriciousness of the storm – of all the difference it made in which side the levee or floodwall broke. On one side there is the familiar mound of carpet and appliances, and the unmistakable signs of life – the lights on, a new American flag, the windows shut to keep the AC in. On the other side, the houses are tilted or shifted from their foundations. The grass is dead. The trees are rusty looking. The windows are broken – an indication of an owner's last-ditch attempt to get inside to see what could be salvaged.

The rushing waters didn't discriminate once it invaded the doomed neighborhoods. It ravaged both the nice 2-story brick homes in New Orleans East and the already dilapidated clapboard homes in the Ninth ward.

Historic Jackson Barracks in the lower Ninth ward is also shut down. It has served as a military facility for both the



These aircraft in the Jackson Barracks Museum Air Park appear to be struggling to get out of flood waters. *Photo provided by La. National Guard*



White caps rush past the Jackson Barracks Library during Hurricane Katrina. Priceless documents dating back to the Civil War were kept in the library. *Photo provided by La. National Guard*

state and federal government since before the Civil War. Now its headquarters and its employees are relocated to Gillis Long in Carville and Camp Beauregard near Alexandria, perhaps permanently. Priceless documents in the library and irreplaceable artifacts in the museum are destroyed. Their time to have served as



The antebellum homes at Jackson Barracks, which serve as residences for La. Guard officers, had up to six feet of water in them. *Photo provided by La. National Guard*



Area D of Jackson Barracks located between Claiborne Avenue and Florida Street had ten feet of water. Jackson Barracks was sandwiched between the levee break on the Industrial Canal and the storm surge that flowed over the protection levee in Chalmette. *Photo provided by La. National Guard*

historical mementos is over. History will begin anew.

[Continued](#)

Loving New Orleans (continued)

In one Uptown neighborhood, a disgruntled Saints fan is expressing his frustration on the white surfaces provided by the countless refrigerators on the curbs. "Mail maggots to Tom Benson in San Antonio" they declare in orange spray paint. Others rant, "Benson is lying 2 U Fans", and still another warns, "Benson Inside. Do Not Open".

I'm sure for many, the Saints are the last thing on their minds.

For some, revenge was the motive. Two huge brick homes on Carrollton in mid-City opposite the New Orleans Seminary were burned down. These were the kinds of architecturally unique houses that provoked people to slow down in their vehicles to get a better look. Whatever the target was, the fire spread to the whole block and devoured numerous shotgun homes and apartments. Large brick homes and multi-family dwellings were reduced to steps, chimneys, and wrought iron. These two homes had been built up on a hill and would have escaped the flood waters of the storm, but they didn't escape the darker side of man.

Hurricane Katrina brought out the saintly and the ugly in its victims. At the entrance to St. Bernard where Interstate 510 becomes Paris Road near Bayou Bienvenue someone has erected a large crucifix and a hand-lettered sign that says, "Keep the Faith".

The sign is meant to offer fortification for the sights that lie ahead, but keeping the faith doesn't keep you from gagging outside the Jubilee Food store on Judge

Perez where thousands of pounds of rotting meat and fish is imprisoned beneath tons of drywall, grocery shelves and floor tiles lining the highway.

The whole sight of it – from one end of the Greater New Orleans area to the other – is enough to make you want to jump on a plane and go somewhere else, anywhere else – where you can just go back to complaining about traffic and the price of gas. It is at times too overwhelming, and you wonder, how we will ever get well.

We get well one street at a time and one area at a time, as did the merchants of Magazine Street a while back who spent a weekend hauling debris, sweeping streets, and fixing windows. They wanted to send a message that, "We're back and open for business."

We get well by sweeping up downtown and Canal Street to prepare for the workers to return as occurred in October.

We get well by coming together to

[Continued](#)



A hand-lettered sign at the entrance to St. Bernard Parish on Paris Road warns returning residents of the sights that lie ahead. Photo by Maria Tolleson



The smell outside of Jubilee Food Store on Judge Perez Highway was enough to bring tears to the eyes. Photo by Maria Tolleson

Loving New Orleans (continued)

clean up the debris in City Park, as did numerous volunteers the first weekend of November. They too were making a statement: "life goes on."

We get well by volunteering to clean up the French Quarter, as will numerous residents and businesses later in November. The determined tourists who are visiting the Quarter will see that we may be down, but we're not out.

We get well by going about our business, and by going about our pleasure. In the Warehouse District, the locals sit outside an open bar near Julia Street sipping drinks and waving to passing motorists. "New Orleans babaaay" one yells holding a drink aloft – the universal sign of laissez faire.

We get well by borrowing courage from a friend or neighbor whose feeling optimistic, at a time when your own outlook is more decidedly melancholy.

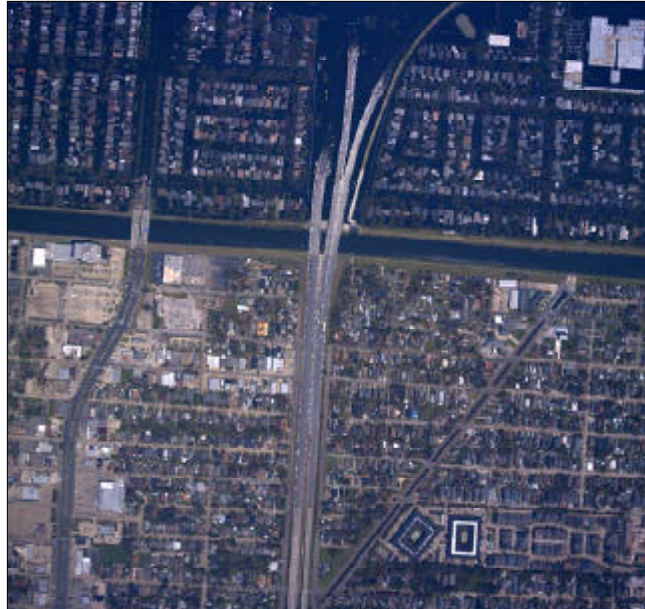
Those who plan to leave New Orleans are the ones who never truly let the culture sink into the bloodstream, but once she's in your veins, New Orleans is a drug, an addiction that's not satisfied with anyplace else.

The Big Easy may no longer be in the forefront of the nation's conscious. Now there's the bird flu to think about, and the cost of heating oil, and Christmas is around the corner.

And those out-of-towners who question whether it's worth it to rebuild New Orleans, well don't question too loudly – those are fighting words. Just ask Tom Benson about the passion we locals feel

for our city and all thing New Orleans.

As for the Crescent City and its bedroom communities, it's clean-up time, and rebuilding time. So stir the gumbo and get out of our way. We have a city to rebuild.



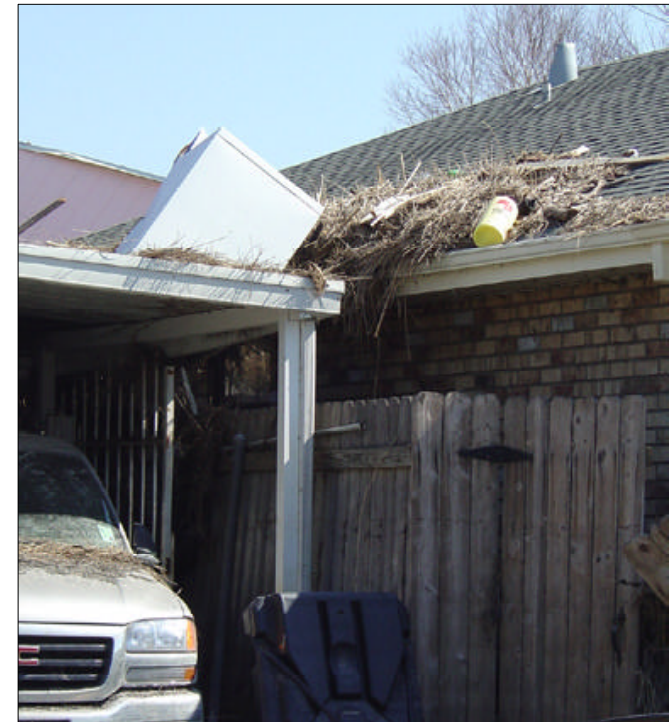
An example of living on the wrong side of the levee break. The top half of the photo shows flooded streets and the bridges spanning the 17th Street canal descending into water. *Photo provided by Charles Warren*



This house floated off its lot and came to rest in the front yard of a neighboring house. *Photo by Maria Tolleson*



This house landed in the middle of the street after taking a swim during Hurricane Katrina. *Photo by Maria Tolleson*



Marsh grass and a washing machine indicate how high the flood waters rose in Chalmette. *Photo by Maria Tolleson*

[Photographs continued](#)

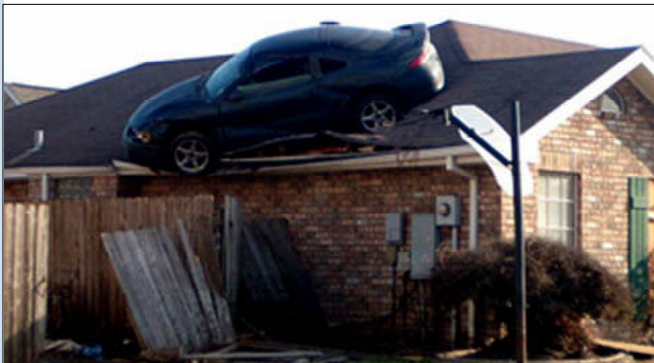
Loving New Orleans (continued)



Cars balance side by side on a gate in this Chalmette neighborhood.



Cars came to rest in the most unusual positions as the flood waters finally receded in St. Bernard Parish.



This car climbed up onto the roof and still couldn't escape the flood waters in Chalmette.



This scenario gives a whole new meaning to 3-car garage. (Chalmette).



The storm surge pouring over the protection levee in St. Bernard Parish washed away the homes on either side of this damaged house. The levee is seen in the background.



The black skirt that rings this house in Meraux is from a nearby oil spill during the hurricane.



(above) The roof of this home in the Lexington subdivision of St. Bernard was ripped away.

(left) The Coast Guard Station at the end of Lakeshore Drive.

[Photographs continued](#)

Photographs by Maria Tolleson

Loving New Orleans (continued)



This yacht was pushed onto the street near Joe's Crab Shak at the end of Lakeshore Drive.



(left) Ferrara's Super Market took a beating from the storm, but items were largely untouched on its grocery shelves.

(below) Tree cutting crews still haven't made it to parts of New Orleans East.

*Photographs by
Maria Tolleson*

[Photographs continued](#)



This is the levee break that flooded into the neighborhood surrounding UNO.



Loving New Orleans (continued)



This battered sherrif's vehicle sits in the middle of Intrepid Street in New Orleans East.



The sounds of wings flapping was the only noise on this street off of the Michoud Blvd exit. Life is returning in some form to New Orleans East.



(left) Water rose to the gutters in this home near Franklin Avenue.

(right) Pews and chairs are strewn in the parking lot of Faith Church seen along Interstate 10 at the Bullard exit. The interior of this vast church resembled a lake after the storm



(left) The skin of Million-Air hangar at the Lakefront Airport was torn away.

*Photographs by
Maria Tolleson*

[Photographs continued](#)

[Return to Page 1](#)

Loving New Orleans (continued)

Photographs by Maria Tolleson



The winds and surge of Hurricane Katrina caused serious erosion on the seawall on Lakeshore Drive.



Condos on Lakeshore Drive rise in the background near this neighborhood on Old Hammond Highway. Flooded houses throughout the neighborhood had tan striations across them indicating different levels of settling water.

This was Gambino's Bakery on Elysian Fields.



(left) Dried mud covers everything in this neighborhood located on the wrong side of the levee break near Bucktown.



All that remains of this beautiful house in Mid-City are steps and chimneys. A suspected arsonist set fire to these homes on Carrollton Avenue which spread to the whole block.